



# LIFE at the Crossroads

FALL 2022

## Calendar of Events...

- **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday**  
January 22, 2023
- **Monthly Prayer Walks**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 10-11:00  
on-site at Crossroads  
Contact us to register.
- **Church Baby Showers**  
Bi-Monthly on-site at Crossroads in 2023.  
Contact us to sign-up as a sponsoring church

Please Visit our website for more information on these events!

## Inside this issue:

- Hard Conversations **pg 2**
- Church + Abortion **pg 3**
- You've Changed **pg 4**
- Dadhood in Practice **pg 5**
- Back to School **pg 5**
- AmazonSmile **pg 6**
- How to Partner with Us **pg 6**

## From the Executive Director

2022 has been one of growth and excitement. We have served 40% more clients this year over 2021 and we finally have a road-worthy sign which has increased foot-traffic to Crossroads thanks to anonymous donors.

We were fortunate to have David Scotton as our guest speaker at this year's Coffee & Dessert fundraiser. David's story was the feature of this fall's box-office hit LIFEMARK. This movie told the true story of David's life as an adoptee, the honor his adoptive family always gave to his birthmom, and their reunification experience.

Because of the impact of this movie, many people across this country are learning how beautiful adoption is. At Crossroads, we have started the LIFEMARK Bible study and it's been great. If you haven't seen LIFEMARK yet, you can stream it on Pure Flix starting November 22nd.

Special thank you to our Coffee & Dessert Platinum Sponsors: Chris O'Connor Farm Bureau Insurance, First United Methodist Church, Lincoln Baptist Church, Mr. & Mrs. Logan Cox, and Col. & Mrs. Don Jenkins. And a very special thank you to Fayetteville First Baptist for the venue.

Thankfully, the event raised more than our targeted goal—40% over previous years. This means we are better positioned to serve the 40% increase in clients we have seen in 2022 as compared to those we served in 2021. I'm still amazed at how those two numbers match. God provides! Because of His faithfulness, we will have the opportunity to see more moms saved from a decision they would later regret, more school kids hearing a positive message regarding relationships, more women receiving professional, Christ-focused counseling for deep hurts.

As we strive to provide truthful reporting of our impact this year, we have revised our metrics to track the number of women who came to us as Abortion Minded and then decided to choose life for their baby. I am so pleased to report our Third Quarter 2022 metrics for babies saved is 67%. The impact we are having at Crossroads is huge and it is real—especially for the six, sweet lives saved at Crossroads in Q3. While we grieve the ones lost to abortion, let's remember to pray for all lives impacted by abortion including the women who have had abortions.

Speaking of prayer—please consider signing up for a prayer walk at Crossroads. Or perhaps you would like a more hands-on way to be involved...such as sponsoring a client Baby Shower. You can learn more about both by going to our website [www.friendsofcrossroads.com](http://www.friendsofcrossroads.com) or by reaching out to me directly. Thank you for all you do for life each and every day!

For life, *Amanda* Amanda Curtis // Email: [amanda@cpregclinic.org](mailto:amanda@cpregclinic.org) // Text: 931-297-2424



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## HARD CONVERSATIONS

By Michelle Holman, RDMS, RVT, SRAS  
Sexual Risk Avoidance Educator

The first and greatest commandment is first written in Deuteronomy 6:5. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." Immediately following these statutes, God tells us in verse 7 "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." We are to teach our children with our words and by our example that when we follow and love God with all that we have, it will permeate through every aspect of our life.

When you fall in love with someone, isn't it funny that their name seems to come up in every conversation you have? They are in your thoughts and are considered in every decision you make. They are your delight. When we are filled up with Jesus, He says we will have rivers of living water overflowing from us, John 7:38. May we genuinely follow hard after our Lord and be so filled up with Jesus that it spills out of us in our thoughts, words, and actions towards others, especially to our children. They are our most important

mission field, and the greatest impact we can have is leading by example.

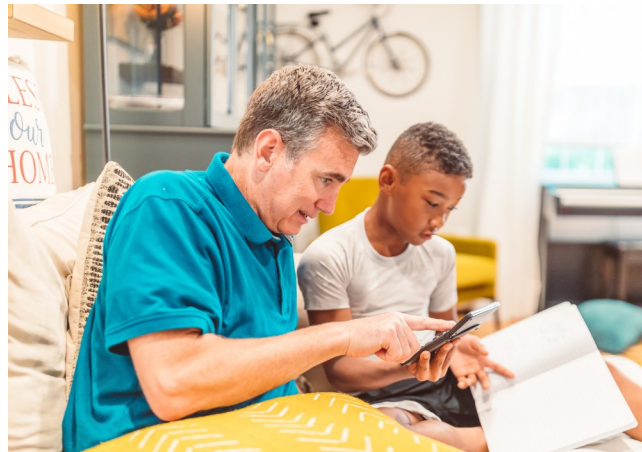
It is important to be authentic as well as intentional with our kids. What do we specifically teach them about God's ways? What are the parameters for entertainment, media, technology, sex, marriage, pornography, gender identity, and abortion? These are "hot topic" and big themes that our children are exposed to – how are we as parents guiding them through it all? What is our motive for them? Is it to fit in, be popular, stand out, go with their feelings, or follow their heart? Or is the objective to have God honoring priorities, integrity, delayed gratification, and biblical boundaries all while having a loving, helpful heart for others? Are we actually taking the initiative and talking to our kids about hot topics, or are we just waiting until they hear about it first from a friend or discover it on their phones? It is always better to be proactive than reactive when it comes to our children. Some conversations may feel awkward or uncomfortable, but it is necessary that we as parents step into our role as the shepherds of our children's lives and have some open

dialogue and communication about these subjects.

"Kids will be kids" is not a verse in the Bible. In contrast, 1 Timothy 4:12 states, "Let no man despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." Our children can have high, biblical standards for the relationships in their life, their own conduct, and the beliefs they have. Will they always get it right? Obviously not! Thank you, God, for your forgiveness and grace through our risen Savior, Jesus! But let's give them credit that the Holy Spirit can work in and through their lives even as adolescents and teenagers, and we as parents can hold them accountable for staying on the best path.

Science and research actually prove that following God's way yields happier, healthier, and more successful people. As an educator in the EQUIP program, I am excited to teach the youth in our middle and high schools, as well as in our local church youth groups. We teach medically researched and fact based information regarding healthy decision making, strong relationships, media messages, and risky behaviors.

If your church youth group would be interested in learning more, please contact us to schedule an event for your middle and high school students. We hope the EQUIP program acts to reinforce what you, as your child's parent, are already teaching at home and allows for open and honest conversations between you and your child as you navigate these important years. If you need material on how to kick-start the conversation, please reach out to us anytime.



## CHURCH + ABORTION

By Amy Leimer

Client Services Director

Should churches support abortion recovery healing? Yes, absolutely. Should we support those who are working with abortion minded clients? Once again, my answer is yes.

As I led the *Surrendering the Secret* Bible study at my last abortion healing weekend retreat, I looked around the room of women—some of whom still carried the shame even though 40 years had passed since their abortion. It always breaks my heart when they realize how that one decision affected so many aspects of their lives and future decisions they made. Most were too ashamed to tell anyone what they had done and were afraid of being judged and condemned by the church. One woman of the Catholic faith recently shared that she went to her priest to talk about possibly having the abortion and instead of counseling her he told her

he would never serve communion to her again if she went through with the abortion but offered her no real help, no solution. This was 52 years ago and she is still wounded by his reaction.

I believe we often focus so much on the sin that we fail to consider what factors make her feel like she has no other option. How can the church help those who have made that decision in their past? I believe the first step is in not condemning her, but rather showing grace and encouraging her to seek Biblical healing such as *Surrendering the Secret* that we offer at Crossroads.

Statistically, one in four women sitting in a church on any given Sunday has had an abortion. This should wake us up to the reality of all the suffering and hurting people we come into contact with every week in a church service. We are often quick to judge, but we need to also understand that there are coping effects of abortion

used by not only women, but also the men who are involved. Some coping mechanisms are eating disorders, abuse of drugs or alcohol, and a long line of unhealthy relationships. Others also report regret, guilt, depression, anxiety, and thoughts of suicide after an abortion.

A recent study done by Support After Abortion found that 24% of women searched for help after their abortion and another 39% didn't seek help but stated they could have benefited from talking to someone. Abortion is a sin, but it seems to be a sin that no one really wants to address.

When a woman tells you she is pregnant she does not need to be made to feel insecure or judged. She is carrying a life that is God's creation. The life may not have been conceived the way you would have desired, but it still has huge value to God as we see in Psalm 39 that we are all fearfully and wonderfully made.

## SURRENDERING THE SECRET

HEALING THE HEARTBREAK OF ABORTION

### THE STUDY

Many women who have experienced abortion hide the secret deep in their hearts and suffer in silence. The *Surrendering the Secret* Bible study enables women to release this burden and find freedom through the honest, interactive study of God's word; meaningful group experiences; and unique journaling experiences. This powerful, redemptive study helps each hurting woman find her personal path to healing.

Here at Crossroads we help those suffering from the hurt of having an abortion and in need of healing through our *Surrendering the Secret* after-abortion Bible study. It is an 8 session study that I have led in a weekend format as well as over the course of several weeks. Healing may also be needed for others that have been affected by an abortion such as fathers, grandmothers, aunts, etc. If you would like more information on how to support someone, please contact us. If you need healing after an abortion we are here for you too.



## YOU'VE CHANGED

**By Laura Mayer**  
Client Development Director

"You've changed. You're not like you use to be."

These were the words from an ex-boyfriend after trying to get back in a client's life. Our client was grinning ear-to-ear when she shared them with me.

He had called and said all the sweet words the "old" her would have been hungry to hear. He said things that would have felt sincere had she not been taught to recognize patterns of control, and offered promises that would have been everything she hoped for had she not learned God was faithful and she could place her hope on HIM! She didn't need a man to rescue her when she had a God who had already done that.

My eyes were misty upon hearing of her interaction with him. She knew she was different and, much to his frustration, her ex-boyfriend knew it too.

This client had been faithful to attend our one-on-one client development sessions for months. She'd been learning to implement healthy boundaries, understanding her worth through God's eyes, recognizing toxic relationship patterns, and healing from wounded places in her life. It's

been hard work and she's met so many challenges along the way.

Finding out she was pregnant could have caused her, like many women, to *stay* in the abusive cycle rather than leave. Or sadly, abuse could have led her to choose abortion rather than bring a baby into a destructive situation. So many women wouldn't have been strong enough to leave or wouldn't have had the support this client has received through Crossroads. But this client chose to say yes to all the hard, right things, and used the love she had for her unborn baby as

the catalyst to do so.

Just before she hung up with her ex-boyfriend, he told her that she seemed to not care what he was saying, like she wasn't really even listening and that his words didn't seem to matter to her. That's when he told her "you've changed" and that she wasn't the same person she use to be.

She smiled, agreed with him, and in that moment, realized he had never spoken truer words about her. She was different... in all the best ways.



### *Our Mission*

To empower individuals within our community to make healthy life choices consistent with the sanctity of human life; provide pregnancy confirmation and support; offer parenting education; and guide those with pregnancy loss to a place of healing.

## PRACTICAL HELP

By Amy Leimer

Client Services Director

Our Dadhood Coaches do a phenomenal job each and every day at Crossroads. Dadhood offers an easy way to earn practical things for baby through easy, one-on-one conversations...led by men for men.

Through Dadhood, our male clients learn tips for being a great dad! They learn things like how to pick up on baby's cues, the importance of talking to baby as often as possible, how to become involved in the daily care of their baby, and the importance of developing real relationships with their child.

## BACK TO SCHOOL

By Amy Beard

EQUIP Educator, Starting Point: Middle Schools

Another school year is underway and so is the EQUIP Program for 7th and 8th graders in our local schools. This will be the second school year that I, on behalf of Crossroads Pregnancy Clinic, have been allowed to go into Middle schools to teach, and I am so excited to get the opportunity again!

This semester I will be focusing on teaching the importance of making good decisions. I'll be explaining and illustrating how some decisions are easy to make while others can be much harder, how to recognize who or what impacts decisions, and that ALL decisions, good or bad, have consequences. One of the main focuses will be the media's influence on decision making.

After informally asking students, "About how much time do you spend looking at a screen from 3pm

By supporting the mom during the pregnancy, dads are setting the stage for being a great hands-on parent. And speaking of setting the stage...our Dadhood coaches place great focus on setting the stage for future success of the whole family by providing practical guidance such as personal and family budgeting help.

This coming January, Dave Ramsey Certified Instructor and Dadhood Coach Don Bukar will supplement his Dadhood coaching by offering Financial Peace University at Crossroads' Education Center. Through this 9-lesson class, which is free for our clients but open to anyone, participants will learn how

until bedtime, Monday-Friday?", the answers were quite astounding. Most students admitted that they spend at least 4 hours a day after school looking at a screen, mostly phones, while others claimed to get 8-12 hours of screen time. When I asked what time they actually go to bed on a school night, the majority said AFTER midnight. WOW!

Needless to say, after hearing the amount of time they're looking at some sort of media, I think we can conclude that media has the capacity to play a major role in influencing decisions. When asked what media platforms they are using, the main answers were Tik-Tok, YouTube, SnapChat, and Instagram, none of which have been deemed as "bad". However, all have the capability to influence in positive or negative ways.

Today's students are being inundated with so much information



to save for emergencies, pay off debt fast, spend wisely, and invest in their family's future. Our prayer is that real generational change happens, forever changing their family tree.

To learn more about Financial Peace at Crossroads, to register, or to sponsor a participant, please go to [www.friendsofcrossroads.com](http://www.friendsofcrossroads.com)

through the media that it's becoming harder and harder for them to differentiate between what is fact vs. fiction, filtered vs. unfiltered, etc. It's unfortunate that much of what they see is anything but "real". Consequences to certain behaviors are rarely shown on these media platforms.

My job is to educate them on the realities of the media and how consequences of bad decisions are rarely shown but DO exist! We talk about some of those consequences. We talk about setting boundaries. We talk about the dangers that are unfortunately lurking out there that are trying to snare them into making bad decisions. We talk...and I am happy that I am able to start, and keep, the conversation going!

Please pray for our students...Please pray for me, as the Middle School EQUIP Educator, that I can help them this crazy world we're living in!

## Follow us on Social Media



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cpregclinic.org



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Partner Website  
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## HOW TO PARTNER WITH US

We hope you have been encouraged and inspired by this semi-annual edition of *Life at the Crossroads*. Please consider partnering with us if you have not yet done so. We operate strictly on private funds from individuals, churches and small businesses—no government aid or grants.

The easiest way to partner is online at [friendsofcrossroads.com](http://friendsofcrossroads.com).

Checks are always welcome and can be mailed to us at the address below. Occasionally we will have office needs or Baby Boutique items that need to be restocked which we post on our Amazon Baby Registry. Just look up Crossroads Pregnancy Clinic on the Amazon Baby Registry or find it by going to [friendsofcrossroads.com](http://friendsofcrossroads.com).

From our family to yours, thank you for your support and prayers. That's the greatest resource we could ever have.



### BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Find out if your church wants to participate in January for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday on January 22, 2023

Find out more information at

<https://www.friendsofcrossroads.com/baby-bottle-boomerang>

*Crossroads Pregnancy Clinic is a 501c3 organization, Federal Tax ID #83-0988951*

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